Message Text

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ACTION AF-06

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02

INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

USIA-06 ACDA-05 IO-10 OMB-01 ARA-06 EB-07 AID-05 /099 W

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R 051600Z JAN 76

FM AMEMBASSY LAGOS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2676

INFO AMEMBASSY ABIDJAN

AMEMBASSY ACCRA

AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA

AMEMBASSY CONAKRY

AMEMBASSY COTONOU

AMEMBASSY DAKAR

AMEMBASSY DARE ES SALAAM

AMEMBASSH KHARTOUM

AMEMBASSY KINSHASA

AMEMBASSY LOME

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY LOURENCO MARQUES

AMEMBASSY LUSAKA

AMEMBASSY MONROVIA

AMEMBASSY NIAMEY

AMEMBASSY OUAGADOUGOU

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY PRETORIA

AMEMBASSY YAOUNDE

AMCONSUL IBADAN

/AMCONSUL KADUNA 392

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TAGS: PFOR, OXA, OAU, AO, TP, CU, NI, US

SUBJECT: FMG GEARING UP FOR OAU SUMMIT ON ANGOLA

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REF: LAGOS 0068

- 1. SUMMARY: ON EVE OF OAU SUMMIT, FMG APPEARS TO BE WORKING ITSELF UP TO NEW HEIGHTS OF ACTIVITY OVER ANGOLA. IN PAST WEEK, HEAD OF STATE MUHAMMED, HAS MET WITH GROUP OF EIGHTEEN YOUNG VOLUNTEERS FOR MPLA ARMY FROM SAO TOME AND PRINCIPE AND A FIVE MAN DELEGATION FROM CUBA. MEA COMMISSIONER GARBA FLEW TO KAMPALA TO DISCUSS ANGOLA AND OAU MEET WITH IDI AMIN. PRESS, WHICH SHOWS INCREASING SIGS BEING INFLUENCED BY GOVERNMENT, HAS BEEN STRIDENTLY CONDEMNATORY U.S. ACTIONS AND HAS CALLED FOR MORE SUBSTANTIAL FMG SUPPORT FOR MPLA. END SUMMARY.
- 2. ACCOMPANIED BY THREE MEMBERS MPLA CENTRAL WORKING COMMITTEE AND TWO PORTUGUESE MILITARY ADVISORS TO MPLA, EIGHTEEN YOUNG SAO TOME AND PRINCIPE VOLUNTEERS FOR MPLA ARMY ARRIVED IN LAGOS FOR BWRIEF SHOW AND TELL DECEMBER 31. REPORTEDLY THE FIRST BATCH OF VOLUNTEERS FROM THE NEW ISLAND NATION, THE YOUTHS (AND THEIR MPLA COMPANIONS) FLEW INTO NIGERIA IN A "TRANSPORTEN AEROS DE ANGOLA" F27 AIRCRAFT. THEY WERE FERRIED BY NIGERIAN AIR FORCE HELICOPTER TO DODAN BARRACKS FOR A MEETING WITH HEAD OF STATE MUHAMMED AFTER WHICH THEY DEPARTED THE COUNTRY, PRESUMARLY FOR LUANDA
- 3. FIVE MAN CUBAN DELEGATION, LED BY OSMANY CIENFUGES GOVRIARIM (SIC), SET DOWN IN LAGOS JANUARY 3 TO DELIVER SPECIAL MESSAGE TO HEAD OF STATE FROM PRIME MINISTER CASTRO. IN CONFERENCE WITH CUBANS, MUHAMMED REPORTEDLY CHARACTERIZED CUBA AS ONE OF NIGERIA'S BEST FRIENDS ADDING "IT IS IN TIME OF NEED THAT ONE KNOWS ONE'S FREINDS." HE SAID FMG SUPPORTS CUBA'S EFFORTS TO AID AFRICA QTE DESPITE ACCUSATIONS FROM SOME QUARTERS. UNQTE. HEAD OF STATE ALSO STATED THAT NIGERIA'S TOTAL COMMITMENT TO ANGOLAN LIBERATION WAS "THE BEGINNING" THIS COUNTRY'S DEEP INVOLVEMENT SOUTHERN AFRICAN AFFAIRS. CUBANS CONGRATULATED FMG ON ITS ANGOLAN STANCE AND INDICATED CUBA WOULD CONTINUE TO AID ANGOLA AS ITS CONTRIBUTION TO THE ALL-OUT BATTLE AGAINST RACISM IN AFRICA.
- 4. MEA COMMISSIONER GARBA MADE ONE-DAY TRIP TO KAMPALA JANUARY 2 TO DELIVER SPECIAL MESSAGE FROM MUHAMMED TO IDI AMIN AND TO ARGUE NIGERIA'S POSITION ON ANGOLA. ACCORDING PRESS, MAIN ARGUMENT SEEMED TO BE THAT IT SHOULD BE CLEAR AFRICA SUPPORTS MPLA SINCE SEVERAL AFRICAN COUNTRIES HAVE RECOGNIZED LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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THAT FACTION AND NONE HAVE EXTENDED RECOGNITION TO FNLA OR UNITA. AMIN REPROTED AS STICKING TO HIS GUNS IN RESPONSE, SAYING HE COULD NOT TAKE SIDES, WAS FRIENDLY ALL THREE LIBERATION MOVEMENTS AND THAT EACH FACTION MUST BE GIVEN EQUAL TREATMENT. PRESUMABLY THE TWO ALSO DISCUSSED SCENARIO FOR UPCOMING OAU MEET.

5. PAST FEW WEEKS HAVE SEEN RISING CRESCENDO STRIDENT NEWS ARTICLES, COLUMISTS' PIECES, AND EDITORIALS PRESSING FOR FURTHER FMG DEMONSTRATION ITS SUPPORT MPLA AND CONDEMNING SOUTH AFRICA AND U.S. (ONLY INDEPENDENT "TRIBUNE" HAS QUESTIONED FMG POLICY AND SOVIET CUBAN INVLOVEMNT IN ANGOLA.) MEDIA HAS SEIZED ON REPORTED CIA TRNASGRESSIONS AROUND THE WORLD AND PRESENT INVOLVEMENT IN ANGOLA. GREAT PLAY GIVEN TO U.S. NEWS REPORTS OF CONGRESSIONAL CONSIDERATION U.S. AID TO ANGOLA. SINISTER U.S. AIMS SEEN THROUGHOUT. SCHAUFELE TRIP TO AFRICA USED IN JANUARY 3 "NEW NIGERIAN" EDITORIAL ENTITLED "DOOMED TO FAIL" AS POINT OF DEPARTURE FOR GENERAL ATTACK ON WHAT PAPER VIEWS AS NEFARIOUS U.S. INVOLVEMENT. MPLA SAID TO BE ANATHEMA TO U.S. BECAUSE AMERICA IS OPPOSED TO NATIONALIST ASPIRATIONS. AMERICAN INITIATIVE REPRESENTED BY SCHAUFELE TRIP PROTRAYED AS ATTEMPT QTE CONVINCE THE GULLIBLE THAT PEACE CAN ONLY BE RESTORED TO ANGOLA IF THE RUSSIANS AND THE CUBAN FORCES PRESENT IN THE COUNTRY ON THE INVITATION OF THE GOVERNMENT OF THAT COUNTRY WITHDRAW ... SO AS TO GIVE FREE HAND TO THE WESTERN STOOGES, THE FNLA AND UNITA, ARMED THROUGH THE ZAIREAN ARSENAL PROVIDED BY AMERICAN SOURCES. THE AMERICAN GOVERNMENT THROUGH TOUR

OF MR. SCHAUFELE IS TRYING TO PLANT THE SEEDS OF STALEMATE AT THE OAU MEETING...UNQUTE.

6. MOST JANUARY 3 PAPERS CARRY EXCERPTS RECENT "CHRISTIAN SCIENCE MONITOR" ARTICLE REPORTING CIA RECRUITMENT AND TRAINING U.S. EX-SERVICEMEN FOR FIGHTING IN ANGOLA. JANUARY 5 "DAILY TIMES" SEIZES ON THIS STORY TO CASTIGATE CIA GENERALLY BUT ESPECIALLY FOR QTE POKING ITS MURDEROUS NOSE INTO AFRICA AGAIN, THIS TIME VIA ANGOLA... WHAT CIA WANTS IN ANGOLA IS VERY CLEAR: TO THE KISSINGER-FORD CLIQUE MPLA SYMBOLIZES COMMUNIST INCURSION INTO AFRICA WHICH AMERICA MUST RESIST, SINCE IT LIVES IN PERPETUAL FEAR--REAL OR IMAGINARY--OF COMMUNIST EXPANSION TO ITS SPHERE OF INFLUENCE WHICH INCLUDES THE WHOLE OF THE THIRD WORLD...THE CIA'S LATEST MOVE IN ANGOLA AND AN EARLIER ADMISSION BY HENRY LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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KISSINGER THAT THE U.S.A HAS BEEN HELPING TO OVERTHROW THE GOVERNMENT OF MPLA SHOW CONCLUSIVELY THAT AMERICA AND ITS ALLIES HAVE NEVER BELIEVED IN PEACE IN ANGOLA. RATHER, THEY HOPE TO REAP FROM THE RUINS OF THAT COUNTRY. UNQTE. EDITORIAL ENDS BY CHALLENGING ALL AFRICANS TO "DEFEAT AMERICAN ADVENTURISM" AND TO PROVIDE MPLA WITH MATERIAL AND MILITARY AID IMMEDIATELY.

7. COMMENT: FMG OBVIOUSLY PULLING OUT THE STOPS ON EVE OAU SUMMIT IN EFFORT PRESSURE MORE AFRICAN COUNTRIES INTO SUPPORT OF MPLA AND TO SHOW ITSELF AS "PROGRESSIVE" AFRICAN LEADER. IN THIS PRECESS, USG BEING BATTERED BY PRESS WHICH INCREASINGLY SHOWS SIGNS OF BEING GOVERNMENT INSTRUMENTALITY. WHILE GOVERNMENT SPOKESMAN HAS FLATLY DENIED FMG INTENTIONS PROVIDE MILITARY ASSISTANCE TO MPLA, FMG DOES SEEM BE WORKING OVERTIME CONVINCE

AFRICA ITS ANGOLAN POLICY IS RIGHT. IF ALL THIS ACTIVITY
PORTENDS A DRAMATIC MOVE AT OAU MEET, GOVERNMENT IS KEEPING ITS
CARDS CLOSE TO CHEST. END COMMENT.
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